

Approved For Release 2000/08/25 : CIA-RDP57-00384R001000120010-9

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SUBJECT: Political Activity of CIA Personnel

1. This being a presidential election year, all CIA personnel should bear in mind the provisions of the Hatch Act restricting political activity by employees of the executive branch of the Federal Government. This Notice is issued as a guide to the more important provisions of the Act giving a brief reference to those activities which are permitted and those specifically prohibited.

2. Since this Notice is not intended as a complete statement of the Act or its interpretations it is possible that guidance will be necessary in specific cases. If there is any question in the employee's mind regarding contemplated political activity, verification that his residence is in an exempted municipality, or other¹ he should consult the Personnel Relations Branch. If that Office finds the case justifies such action they may refer the employee to the General Counsel's Office.

3. The penalty for violation of any of the provisions of the Hatch Act may be removal from Office.

4. In addition to the restrictions of the Hatch Act all employees of this Agency should bear in mind the Agency's special mission and nonpolitical character. It would therefore be inappropriate for any employee of this Agency to make a partisan display of any kind.

FOR THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE:

PERMITTED

PROHIBITED

GENERAL PROVISIONS

Use of official authority or influence for the purpose of interfering with an election or affecting its results. Active participation in political management or in political campaigns.

CONVENTIONS

Candidacy for or service as a delegate, alternate or proxy in any political convention, or service as an officer or employee thereof.

Attendance merely as a spectator and not on Government time provided attendance does not involve

- Taking any part in the convention or deliberations, or proceedings of any of its committees.
- Any public display of partisanship or obtrusive demonstration or interference.

PRIMARIES, CAUCUSES, AND RALLIES

Attendance at a primary meeting, mass convention, caucus, political meeting, or rally.

Casting vote on any question presented.

Participation in ^{the} deliberations, ^{or} action as an officer of ~~the~~ meeting, organizing or assisting in organizing or preparing for such meeting. Addressing such meeting, making motion preparing or assisting in preparing resolutions, assuming to represent others or taking any prominent part in the deliberations.

COMMITTEES

Attendance as a spectator at any meeting of a political committee to which the general public is admitted.

Candidacy for and the holding of the Office of political committeeman, such as precinct committeeman, ward committeeman, etc., or service on or for any political committee or similar organization.

CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS

Membership in a political club.

Organization of such a club; serving an officer, or member or officer of any of its committees. Addressing such clubs, taking active part in the management of its affairs. Representation of other members or attempts to influence them.

POLITICAL ACTIVITIES

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PERMITTED

PROHIBITED

CIVIC ORGANIZATIONS AND CITIZENS' ASSOCIATIONS

Activity in organizations having for their primary object the promotion of good government or local civic welfare, provided it does not involve -

Any activities that are connected with the political campaigns of particular candidates or political parties.

CONTRIBUTIONS

Contributions to a regularly constituted political organization for its general expenditures if not in excess of \$5,000. in any calendar year.

Contributions in excess of \$5000. in any calendar year either in connection with the campaign of any candidate for elective Federal office, or to or in behalf of any organization engaged in furthering the success of any national political party. Solicitation or receipt of contributions for political purposes.

PETITIONS

Signing of petitions, including nominating petitions, as individuals without reference to their connection with the Government.

Initiation of petitions or canvassing for the signature of others if such petitions are identified with political management or political campaigns.

PARADES

Participation in or organization of a political parade.

BADGES, BUTTONS, PICTURES, AND STICKERS

Wearing political badges or buttons.
Displaying political posters or pictures in the windows of their homes or in their automobiles. However,

Distribution of campaign literature, badges, or buttons.

Partisan display of any kind while on duty is a violation of the spirit of the law and inappropriate at any time.

VOTING

Exercise of the right to vote, free from interference, solicitation, or dictation by any fellow employee or superior officer.

POLITICAL ACTIVITIES

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SERVING AS ELECTION OFFICERS AND ACTIVITY AT POLLS

Serving as an election officer, provided that,
in so doing, there is no -

Involvement in partisan activities or
partisan political management. Solici-
tation of votes; assistance to voters
in the marking of ballots; action toward
getting out the voters on registration
or election days; acting as accredited
checkers, watchers, or challengers for
any party or faction. Engaging in any
partisan political activity at the polls
during primary or regular elections.

NONPARTISAN POLITICAL ACTIVITY

Active participation in political management
and political campaigns in connection with:
(1) Any election and the preceding campaign
if none of the candidates is to be nomin-
ated or elected at such election as
representing a party any of whose candi-
dates for presidential elector received
votes in the last preceding election at
which presidential electors were selected;
or
(2) Any question which is not specifically
identified with any National or State
political party, including questions re-
lating to constitutional amendments,
referendums, approval of municipal
ordinances, and others of a similar
character.

Use of their official authority or in-
fluence for the purpose of interfering
with an election or affecting its
result.

EXPRESSION OF OPINION

Right to express opinion on all political
subjects and candidates, (CIA personnel
should express themselves moderately on
political subjects in keeping with the
dignity of a public servant and should
bear in mind the Agency's special mission
and nonpolitical character.)

Public expression of opinion amounting
to taking an active part in political
management or campaigns.

EXEMPTED MUNICIPALITIES

Active participation in local political management and
political campaigns in certain specified municipali-
ties in the immediate vicinity of the District of
Columbia in the States of Maryland and Virginia and
those the majority of whose voters are employed by
the Federal Government.

(These activities are subject to certain restrictions,
such as being a resident of an exempted municipality,
with which the employee should familiarize himself.)

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